

April 21, 2022

Updated COVID Guidelines

Inpatient Unit Quarantine Procedure Following Exposure to COVID Positive Staff

Note: For an inpatient unit exposed to a staff member who becomes positive and worked on the unit up to 48 hours before the positive result, the following procedure should ensue:

- Assume most if not all staff and patients on the unit have been exposed
- Quarantine the unit and any other unit the staff had worked in the preceding 48 hours before the index staff member tested positive and test all patients and staff. Isolate positive patients using unit or facility isolation protocol, while positive staff should isolate at home until cleared to return to work.
- All negative staff should continue to work on the quarantined unit.
- Test all patients and staff on day 5 of quarantine. If all are negative, discontinue unit quarantine.
- Repeat testing of all staff and patients on day 10. If all are negative, no more testing is required.
- Monitor temperature twice a day, at least 8 hours apart and monitor respiration for 14 days after exposure.
- Monitor for signs of infection; fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat or GI symptoms for 14 days after exposure.
- Except in extenuating circumstances, exposed staff should not be assigned to work on an unexposed unit. Any exception should be approved by the CEO, in conjunction with the facility medical director.